

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
SSM-03 IO-13 ACDA-07 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 AID-05  
TRSE-00 /100 W

-----241440Z 022201 /53

R 241246Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 928  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: USEGJC, EAID  
SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT: ARABS TO THE FORE - SAYS EGYPT  
  
REF: CAIRO 1256

1. ALL PAPERS JANUARY 24 CONTINUE TO PLACE HEAVY EMPHASIS  
ON FACT THAT EGYPT'S CURRENT PROBLEMS ARE IN A LARGE MEASURE  
(READ TOTALLY) THE RESULT OF YEARS OF EXPENDITURE ON BEHALF  
OF ARAB CAUSE.

2. CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION AGAIN IS PAID TO EDITORIAL ECHOES  
OF THIS SENTIMENT CARRIED IN PRESS OF ALMOST ALL ARAB COUNTRIES,  
WHICH ARE QUOTED AS RECONGIZING NATURE AND EXTENT OF EGYPT'S  
SACRIFICES OVER THE YEARS AND NEED FOR WEALTHY ARABS TO STEP  
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FORWARD WITH THE ECONOMIC SUPPORT NEEDED TO OFFSET THE RESULTS  
OF THOSE SACRIFICES. COVERAGE REFLECTS BOTH CONTINUED EGYPTIAN  
CONCERN OVER THIS ISSUE, AS WELL AS WHAT APPEARS TO BE  
EXPANDED PRESS TREATMENT OF SAME SUBJECT IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

3. BOTH IN EGYPT AND ELSEWHERE, RATIONALE FOR SUPPORT IS  
BASED ON MORAL AS WELL AS POLITICAL BASES: HAVING SHOULDERED

THE BURDEN OF CONFRONTING ISRAEL FOR SO LONG, EGYPT DESERVES THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THOSE ON WHOSE BEHALF SHE WAGED THE STRUGGLE; AT THE SAME TIME, THE ARABS CAN NIETHER WAGE WAR NOR HAVE PEACE UNLESS EGYPT PARTICIPATES, AND THE REGION CANNOT HAVE STABILITY UNLESS EGYPT'S ECONOMY CONTINUES TO FUNCTION.

4. COMMENT: NEITHER OF THESE THEMES IS NEW, BUT THEY HAVE ACQUIRED INCREASED URGENCY NOW. FACT THAT PRESS IN OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES ARE IN AGREEMENT -- AT LEAST FOR PRESENT -- WITH VIEWS EGYPTIANS HAVE LONG HELD ARE HOPEFUL SIGNS THAT MORE AID MAY BE FORTHCOMING, BUT EDITORIALISTS ARE NOT ALWAYS IN THE KNOW, EVEN IF THEIR OUTPUT SEEMS TO BE ORCHESTRATED, E.G., AL AHAM OF JANUARY 24. ONE WRITER (NABUIB MAHFUZ) SUGGESTS THAT ONE OF GOE'S PRINCIPAL MISTAKES WAS ITS FAILURE TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH ARAB AID WAS AVAILABLE FBEORE FORMULATING BUDGET. EGYPT TRIED HARD TO DO JUST THAT, OF COURSE, AND WAS TOLD TO "IMPLEMENT REFORMS FIRST AND THEN WE'LL TALK".

5. WHILE ARABS (AND OTHERS) CAN BE FAULTED FOR ENCOURAGING EGYPT TO TAKE COURAGEOUS STEPS, REGARDLESS OF BLAME ACCRUING TO GOE AS RESULT OF INEPT IMPEMNTATION, NATIONS DO NOT ALWAYS FEEL GUILTY, AND NOT FOR LONG. WE THEREFORE EXPECT DRUM-FIRE TO PRESS COVERAGE TO BE REPLACED BY SOLID REQUESTS FOR MONEY, BUT AS OF THIS TIME THERE ARE NO SIGNS OF MOVEMENT. AS BIGGEST DONOR, BOTH ACTUALLY AND POTENTIALLY, SAUDIS CAN EXPECT TO RECEIVE ATTENTION FIRST, BUT THEIR EMBASSY TELLS US THAT NO REQUESTS FOR VISITS TO RIYADH HAVE YET BEEN RECEIVED AND NO SAUDI DELEGATIONS ARE PRESENTLY SCHEDULED TO COME HERE.  
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EGYPTIANS ARE PROBABLY STILL SORTING OUT THEIR PLANS.  
EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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